



IMPORTANT NOTICE



**TO: CERTIFIED ORGANIC WINERIES
CERTIFIED VINEYARDS
CERTIFIED HANDLERS AND PROCESSORS OF WINE
AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVES OF ANY OF THE ABOVE**

In cooperation with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Agricultural Marketing Service and its operation of the National Organic Program (NOP), the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau (TTB) is implementing the following policy:

EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY (05/23/2005), all organic labeling applicants who are certified by a USDA-accredited certifying agent (ACA) must obtain their ACA's review and approval of their organic alcohol beverage labels prior to submission to TTB. Documentation showing the certifying agent's review and approval must accompany the request for label approval submitted to TTB. TTB will automatically reject any such application received from a certified entity without any accompanying proof of prior review and approval by that operation's ACA.

This policy reinforces the responsibility of USDA-accredited certifying agents and their clients in maintaining the required standards of production, handling, processing, labeling and marketing of organic products in compliance with the Organic Foods Production Act of 1990 and the National Organic Program regulations at 7 CFR Part 205.